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COUNTRY India/Bhutan/Nepal

DATE DISTR. 7 25X1A
May 53

25X1A

SUBJECT Importance of Technical Assistance Program/
Bhutan Pons/Nepal Geographical Divisions

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. A program of technical assistance such as Point Four among the northeast India tribes and in all areas south of the Himalayas is a necessity if the Western Powers desire the people there to become and remain sympathetic and loyal to India and the western democracies. These distant peoples, politically innocent and removed from daily exposure to democratic education, must be shown by tangible means that India and the West are concerned with their welfare. Mostly, US humanitarianism must be brought to those areas.
2. The most essential assistance which could be rendered the frontier areas is medical help by establishing community clinics and medical schools. This would prove more beneficial than food or clothing gifts. The present [1953] death rate there is extraordinarily high because of a nearly complete lack of doctors and medicine. Other types of assistance should be:
 - (a) establishment of general schools along with the medical units;
 - (b) support of the small cottage industries by gifts of wool to revive old tribal spinning arts. The beautiful patterns will find many buyers in the world's markets;
 - (c) construction of roads and bridges to speed communication and transportation thereby helping the domestic economies;
 - (d) introduction of agricultural education in areas like Punjab and Ladakh. Afforestation and grass growing techniques would be especially helpful. In Ladakh, for example, with sugar provided, apple canning could become a profitable part of the area's economy;
 - (e) initiation of water harnessing projects for power.

The one program which should not be started among any of the frontier people is support of religious missionaries. The people just do not want missionaries from foreign churches in their midst.

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varies from time to time. The word "pon" means official head and so we can assume there are as many pons as there are heads of governmental administrative or supervisory offices. Under the Maharaja there are three chief pons or governors, those of East, Central and West Bhutan. The new Maharaja, Jigmi Wangchuk, was formally the Central pon and the new Central pon, [REDACTED] becomes the heir-apparent. The West Bhutan pon is Rajah S T Dorge who is also the Maharaja's treasurer. The Maharaja exercises direct control over the three chief pons and through them over all other Bhutan pons.

4. Nepal is divided into four geographical divisions, namely:

- (a) Terai - along the Indian frontier and varying in depth from ten to thirty miles. It has no outstanding political leaders.
- (b) Central - includes all major cities and all Nepal's political leaders come from this region (from the Newar tribe). For example, the Koiralas and D Regmi, head of the National Nepali Congress [sic].
- (c) Uplands - between Central Nepal and the higher mountain areas. No political leaders.
- (d) Snowy regions - tops of the mountain ranges. No political leaders.

There are twelve political divisions covering these four geographical areas.

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